

1. Headman exit stage Right at all times,
2. Actor Bring up voice projection more
3. Continue To work the Audience through
movement
Azreal

Couch.?

Azreal to DAVID.

At Heaven's Door

by Calvin Bennett



Black nail
Nails for Dyak
Teeth
Police officer.
B'boy shorts.
Cann

Police officer.
B'boy shorts.
Cann

The Story of Darius and Azreal

Narrative

At Heaven's Door: The Story of Darius and Azreal is the story of the living world (as we know it) and the spiritual world meeting through two beings. Darius has just been diagnosed HIV positive. Through his emotional distress experiences a paradigm shift between worlds. His window to the spiritual world is Azreal. Azreal is one of the deadly evil spirits from Dybok's Clan who promotes uncontrollable, lustful emotions so that people will be infected with the HIV virus. During the thirteen hours of the paradigm shift Azreal becomes more and more filled with human emotions and empathizes with an HIV infected person. Dybok and the Clan have come up with a plan to infect an entire club with the HIV virus and only Azreal and Darius together can spoil his plans. During the thirteen hours they share, Darius experiences spiritual ecstasy and acceptance of his fight with the disease of AIDS.

At Heaven's Door: the Story of Darius and Azreal requires twelve performers and has three sets: Darius's living room, Dybok's cave, and the club. The costumes for all Henchmen will be different dark colored grim-reaper-like wear. The rest of the cast will dress in various outer wear of today's fashions.

Number in cast: 19

Character Descriptions

- Azreal:** As a spirit, Azreal is extremely sexy and devious. Azreal possesses the qualities of appeal and charm. He has no sense of goodness; doing evil things is entertaining to him. He is very comfortable with Dybok, unlike the other henchmen who are extremely intimidated by Dybok. His gaze into the eyes of others is his character trademark. Azreal speaks a lot with his hand in a flowing motion, accenting on his main points. When Azreal goes through the change to be able to touch and feel, he possesses a longing for human companionship. He becomes very curious about feelings.
- Darius** In the beginning of act one, Darius is confused about what is happening to him. He tries to deal with his news of the disease alone. Spiritually and emotionally he is drained.
- Dybok** Evil, sinister leader of the Clan of Dybok. Dybok is untrusting of anyone but Azreal. Dybok's only reason for existence is to kill humans with the AIDS virus. When he is confronted with Azreal being the chosen one, he develops venomous hate for him.
- David** B-boy image, but very sensitive. David trusts and loves Darius more than he admits, but does not show it openly. Being proactive in confronting Darius is the first time David has ever become vulnerable emotionally to anyone. He is fully supportive of Darius and even stays by his side when everyone thinks he's crazy at the club.
- Marcus** Everybody's friend, strong personality and spiritual by nature. Marcus is witty and knows what he is talking about. When he drinks, he becomes flirtatious and bold. On the other hand, when he's sober he is cordial.
- Prospero** Henchman: nosy.
- Ahriman** Henchman: cunning and wicked, sly and sneaky.

Malice	Henchman: killer, hates everything
Liar	Henchman: evil, speaks with a double tongue.
Denial	Henchman: denial.
Clan	Henchmen are sinister by nature. Their movements are erotic and slow. Their tone of voice is creepy and weird. There are five henchman not including Azreal.
Tina	Barmaid, another strong personality, loves singing. She is the life of the party at the club. She sings SWV in the second act.
Policeman	Very professional as an officer.
Bobby	Drunk.
Extras (5)	In the second scene there will be a need for five extras in the club. Three must be able to sing harmony and dance.

Narrative

At Heaven's Door: The Story of Darius and Azreal is the story of the living world (as we know it) and the spiritual world meeting through two beings. Darius has just been diagnosed HIV positive. Through his emotional distress experiences a paradigm shift between worlds. His window to the spiritual world is Azreal. Azreal is one of the deadly evil spirits from Dybok's Clan who promotes uncontrollable, lustful emotions so that people will be infected with the HIV virus. During the thirteen hours of the paradigm shift Azreal becomes more and more filled with human emotions and empathizes with an HIV infected person. Dybok and the Clan have come up with a plan to infect an entire club with the HIV virus and only Azreal and Darius together can spoil his plans. During the thirteen hours they share, Darius experiences spiritual ecstasy and acceptance of his fight with the disease of AIDS.

At Heaven's Door: the Story of Darius and Azreal requires twelve performers and has three sets: Darius's living room, Dybok's cave, and the club. The costumes for all Henchmen will be different dark colored grim-reaper-like wear. The rest of the cast will dress in various outer wear of today's fashions.

Number in cast: 19

Character Descriptions

- Azreal:** As a spirit, Azreal is extremely sexy and devious. Azreal possesses the qualities of appeal and charm. He has no sense of goodness; doing evil things is entertaining to him. He is very comfortable with Dybok, unlike the other henchmen who are extremely intimidated by Dybok. His gaze into the eyes of others is his character trademark. Azreal speaks a lot with his hand in a flowing motion, accenting on his main points. When Azreal goes through the change to be able to touch and feel, he possesses a longing for human companionship. He becomes very curious about feelings.
- Darius** In the beginning of act one, Darius is confused about what is happening to him. He tries to deal with his news of the disease alone. Spiritually and emotionally he is drained.
- Dybok** Evil, sinister leader of the Clan of Dybok. Dybok is untrusting of anyone but Azreal. Dybok's only reason for existence is to kill humans with the AIDS virus. When he is confronted with Azreal being the chosen one, he develops venomous hate for him.
- David** B-boy image, but very sensitive. David trusts and loves Darius more than he admits, but does not show it openly. Being proactive in confronting Darius is the first time David has ever become vulnerable emotionally to anyone. He is fully supportive of Darius and even stays by his side when everyone thinks he's crazy at the club.
- Marcus** Everybody's friend, strong personality and spiritual by nature. Marcus is witty and knows what he is talking about. When he drinks, he becomes flirtatious and bold. On the other hand, when he's sober he is cordial.
- Prospero** Henchman: nosy.
Ahriman Henchman: cunning and wicked, sly and sneaky.

Malice Henchman: killer, hates everything
 Liar Henchman: evil, speaks with a double tongue.
 Denial Henchman: denial.
 Clan Henchmen are sinister by nature. Their movements are erotic and slow. Their tone of voice is creepy and weird. There are five henchman not including Azreal.
 Tina Barmaid, another strong personality, loves singing. She is the life of the party at the club. She sings SWV in the second act.
 Policeman Very professional as an officer.
 Bobby Drunk.
 Extras (5) In the second scene there will be a need for five extras in the club. Three must be able to sing harmony and dance.

ACT ONE, Scene One

(The scene opens with a spotlight slowly coming up as Dybok starts to speak. As he goes through his introduction, the lights slowly comes up so that the audience are able to see the Clan.)

Dybok

spot 1
In life, one has to be responsible for their actions. No matter what the situation is, one has to be ready to make quick decisions. You all know someone who has made a bad decision. I'm there when you think about having sex. I'm there when you're contemplating not wearing condoms, or when in the heat of the moment you feel you're going to lose "the moment" if you stop to protect yourself and your partner. I am there, waiting. Oh, let me introduce myself. I am Dybok, leader of the ancient tribe of Dybok. My only purpose of being is to kill you. ^{rise HENCHMEN} *(He gives an intense look into the audience, his eyes filled with hate.)* Let me introduce my clan. Liar, he speaks with a double tongue. *(Slight laugh)* You can't believe anything he says. Liar?

Liar

Yes, Oh Great One. *(He whispers to the audience.)* I hate you, you bastard. Yes, Oh Great One.

Dybok

Say "hello" to all our beautiful guests.

Liar

Hi, you all look so wonderful. You look like shit, that's what you look like, you look like shit.

It's nice to meet you. I hate meeting you.

Dybok

(Slaps Liar in the back of the head.) Don't insult our guests, you lying monster.

Liar

I'm sorry, Old Great One, *(to the audience)* I'm sorry. *(Walking away)* I'm not sorry, *(looking back at the audience)* I'm not sorry at all.

Dybok

I love Liar, I trust him so much. This is Malice.

Malice

I don't want to meet them. I hate them. *(Tries to go after someone in the audience, but Dybok holds him back.)* Let me kill 'em. Let me kill 'em.

Dybok

Now, now Malice, we don't operate that way.

(Dybok addresses the audience, while Ahriman sneaks up on him for his introduction. Ahriman

ACT ONE, Scene One

[Faint, illegible text from a play script, likely Act One, Scene One. The text is mirrored and appears to be bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like "ACT ONE, Scene One" are visible at the top.]

just stares into the audience with cunning and sly stare.)

Dybok We assist them in killing themselves. *(Dybok turns and notices Ahriman on his side)* This one, Ahriman, he's wicked, sly, sneaky, and he has all the character-traits that I just hate to love ha ha ha ha. Oh my clan has some of the most talented evil spirits in our sphere.

(As Dybok turns to speak in another direction, Ahriman unhooks the diamond pendant from his neck, walks away with it, and places it into Prospero's pocket.)

Dybok But, I have someone in particular I want you to meet: Azreal. Without him many of you wouldn't be infected or affected by HIV. *(Dybok becomes excited and horny, his affection for Azreal made apparent to all.)* Lust *(vigorously rubbing his hands over his body)* is the most potent weapon I have to use against you. *(As Dybok's hand glides over his neck, his eyes open in disgust when he realizes his diamond pendant is missing.)*

Liar Ahriman didn't take it. He didn't take your diamond. He didn't take your diamond pendant. He stole it, he stole it, that's what he did. He didn't steal it.

Malice I hate you Liar, Liar. Die, die, all of you DIE. *MALICE CHASES LIAR UP THE LADDER STAGE RIGHT*

Dybok Simmer down, simmer down. *(To the audience)* You see what I have to put up with. Ahriman. *(Dybok calls, Ahriman comes over with the look of a baby's innocence)* I know you didn't take it. Who did?

(Ahriman goes over to Prospero and pulls the diamond pendant out of his pocket and holds it up.)

Dybok I just love this sphere, ~~Prospero~~. I'm going to kill him that gullible wimp.

Liar Don't worry, you're not going to die today. Dybok's not gonna kill you. *(To the audience.)*
Dead. He's going to die today.

Dybok Look, but don't look too hard. You may fall victim to us.

(Erotica Dance Number)

HENCHMEN NEED to remember VOCALIZATIONS

(At the end of the dance number the music is still going at a low volume.)

Dybok

Oh no, I won't call them friends. I'll assist in their deaths quicker than I will assist in yours. But you, you have choices in your decision making. I can't kill you unless you make a bad decision. Yes of course there are other situations that may occur that will give me the same desired results, and I'll take them too. Death is death, and I'll kill you anyway I can. You make Life changing choices. Choices that effect every aspect of your life. Choices that effect everyone close to you. Choices that may be good. Choices that may be bad. Choices that may be right for you, and bad for me. Right for me and bad for you. Yes, that sounds right. Right for me and bad for you. Ha Ha Ha Ha....

Oh, so you say it's wrong for me to feel this way? Why? Why am I wrong? Don't I have the right to want good things for me? Don't I have a right to choose? Everyone has the right to choose. It's just that some of us for what ever reason has made bad choices. And I'm there every step of the way to impose my ill fated wishes on you, whether the choice be yours or someone else's. I don't give a damn if it's god's choice, I AM GOING TO BE THERE TO MAKE YOU SUFFER. MOTHER F*** (Mother fucker is only mouthed, with an intense glare.) PAIN, SUFFER, DIE! (Relaxed intensity.) You don't know who you're ~~messing~~ with. (More intensity.) I'll kill your mama.

Azreal

I'll kill your daddy.

Malice

I'll kill your sister and your brother.

(Ahriman pulls a meat cleaver from under his garment and holds it up to the audience)

Dybok

I'll kill your cousin, your friend,

Ahriman

your neighbor, your lover, your mistress.

Liar

I won't kill you. (To the audience.) Murder, murder you. I'll murder you. I love all of you.

David Brings
in the Beer and
cigarettes

Malice I'll kill again after you're dead.

ALL WE HATE YOU! (Everyone mutters "hate you" until his line comes up.)

Dybok Die, Die you—

Malice I'll kill the spirit of those you love when I kill you.

Azreal Lust gets them every time.

Denial never happen to you – you don't have sex with men – never happen to you – ~~you~~ know your partners – know them all

Dybok I want to kill your new born babies; I want to kill your unborn babies. We hate you . . . die

ALL Die, die, die, die, die . . . (Lights dim as "die" is said with less volume, but the same intensity.)

Henchmen Cower in corner stage right + light
DyBOK backs up center stage into darkness

The scene now goes to the living room of Darius and David. Darius has just found out that he is positive and is confused in his approach to tell David. David is looking at a ~~game~~ game and is not really paying Darius much attention. Denial is pacing the room in anticipation of Darius' actions.

Denial paces behind couch / Darius enters stage right + rear

Darius: (Putting up a good front to conceal his feelings.) What's up D?.

David: Nothin' much Darius. Come on and watch the game with me. The Hawks gotta win this one.

Darius: No, I think I'm gonna get me something to eat.

David: (David looks up, detecting that something is bothering Darius.) What's wrong? Everything a'ight?

Denial nothing wrong – nothing wrong – you're okay

Darius: Yeah, everything's fine.

Denial of course you fine – gorgeous – ~~you~~ smart – nothing wrong, nothing wrong

David: Yo, 'cause you know, If there's a problem I can handle it for you. (While holding Darius from

behind as if he was his teddy bear). I'm going to see my moms man *(Being playful)* I'll peep you later, okay? **David exits stage Left**

Darius: Yeah, sure, I'll be here when you get back.

(Darius is holding it together very well. David leaves the room and Darius immediately feels alone. The sounds of a Kettle drum beats slowly. As Darius drifts off into his fear, Dybok appears from the far side of audience walking extremely slow. Denial cowers in a corner.)

Dybok steps forward **Denial cowers stage right**
Dybok: My poor poor Darius, You're feeling so all alone. *(Glares around the audience.)* You see?

Choices. He chose me; I didn't choose him. You're afraid, you lonely bastard, You're going to die, You're going to die.

(As Dybok utters feelings and thoughts, Darius feels and thinks them intensely.)

Dybok: What are you going to do? Who are you going to tell?

Denial: tell no one – nothing to tell – not sick, not sick

Dybok: *(Dybok is enjoying every minute of it.)* There's a rash on you.

Denial: no rash, allergic reaction, no rash

Dybok: You have been losing weight lately. Oh child, you look bad.

Denial: look fine, you healthy

(There is a knock at the door. Darius takes a deep breath and collects himself.)

Darius: It's open. **8min**
MARCUS enters stage Left

(Marcus enters the room. Marcus and Darius stare at one another as if Darius is communicating his pain and fear to Marcus.)

Marcus: What's wrong, Darius? What's wrong?

Denial: nothing wrong, nothing wrong *(Denial senses that he is losing power here.)* don't tell, won't understand

Darius: Oh Marcus. *(He falls down to his knees, holding his elbows, with his chin to his chest, rocking*

I'm going to see my mom now (David?) I'll keep

you later, okay? David exits stage left

Yeah, sure, I'll be here when you get back.

Let me see your ticket, please. (David hands her the ticket.)

Thank you. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

That's all right. (David looks at the ticket.)

back and forth grimacing in pain.)

Marcus *(Runs over to get his friend off of his knees.)* Whatever it is, it'll be all right. Come on, get up off this floor.

Darius I can't believe it Marcus. I can't believe this shit.

(Denial starts to cower in fear as Dybok glares at him in anger.)

Marcus What is it you can't believe man?

Darius *(Darius stares into Marcus's eye with fear, as if he is a young boy looking for his father's comfort from the boogie man. He blurts out)* I'M POSITIVE! *(Then merely whispers)* Marcus, I'm positive.

(Denial quickly exits the room with Dybok still glaring in anger.)

Denial exits stage right

Marcus *(Shocked, holds his head with both hands, shaking his head no.)* AH, man. *(He holds his arms open while looking at Darius in disbelief.)* I love you. *(As they hold each other)* I'm there for you, right here, D. Now you know I have to ask you this: when did you get tested? And why didn't you at least talk to me about it?

Darius It just all happened so quickly. I found out that someone I once dealt with is sick from AIDS, so I decided to go get tested. I don't remember much of anything else about this whole thing.

Marcus Did you tell David?

Darius Oh, no! *(Showing fear at the thought of telling him.)*

Denial *(Yelling from the shadows)* Don't tell! *Denial yells from up stage right going down Ladder*

Marcus You know you have to tell him. Darius, no matter how you feel, you have to tell him. *(Azreal enters.)*

DARIUS & MARCUS Embrace Azreal steps to DyBoks side

Dybok Marcus, the son of a bitch of a friend. Don't you just hate it when you have that godly supportive friend. *(He claws out at Marcus from a distance.)*

friend. (He comes in and looks at the picture.)

Marcus: The son of a bitch of a friend. Don't you just hate it when you have that goddamn

Darius & Marcus Embrace

You know you have to tell him. That's no matter how you feel, you have to tell him.

Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell.

Oh, and Marcus, I'm not the only one who's been hurt.

Did you tell David?

I decided to not get tested. I don't remember much of anything else about this whole thing.

If I had all happened so quickly, I don't even know how I could have been with him. AIDS, so

didn't you at least tell me about it?

you, right now. I know you know I have to ask you this: when did you get it? And why?

you, right now. I know you know I have to ask you this: when did you get it? And why?

Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell.

Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell.

I'm positive.

Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell.

Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell.

What can you tell me about this?

I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.

I can't believe it. Marcus, I can't believe this.

off his face.

I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.

Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell. Don't tell.

Azreal Yes, Dybok. He has it so together. *(Dybok stares at the henchman with a look of death.)* But he can be infected too.

Darius Why me, Marco? Why did god do this to me, Marco? Why in the hell did god do this to me? Am I that bad Marco? Haven't I been good? Haven't I tried to live my life as a peaceful, god-fearing person? "WHY THE FUCK DID HE HAVE TO DO THIS TO ME MARCO?" I have never done anything to anyone to deserve this, never. I can't tell no one about this until I—

Marcus Until you what Darius? Go through it all alone? Until you feel that you have no one in your corner? Yo, I'm here. This is the start of an uphill battle. We may never get to the top of the hill, but we'll be together. Me, you, David, your mother, your brothers...

Darius I feel so all alone, even with you standing there and being there for me, I feel so all alone. — *this needs to slow down*

Marcus Darius, remember when Clifford and I broke up? I thought it was the end of the world. I loved him so much, and when it was over, in my mind, my life was over. I went on a boy run for three years after that, just do 'im and leave 'im. Fuck feelings. They didn't give a damn about me. Boys didn't care about anything but a nut and some dollars. My life had become just that, dollars and nuts.

You're persistence in being my friend when I wanted nothing but misery was the one thing that kept me peeking through the cracks to get back to the other side man. Yo, you are my boy. I treated you like shit man. But you stuck by me 'cause you knew I was hurting. My family gave up on me but not you bro'. *MOVE to stage right*

(Intro to "Whenever You Need Me")

I'll be there for you, when ever you need me, I'll be there. I can't possibly know what you're feeling right now, but I can tell you this:

(Song: "Whenever You Need Me")

I'll be there for you, Darius.

Darius Thanks, Marcus. I just need some time alone.

Marcus Are you sure you want to be alone at a time like this?

Darius Oh I'm all right. Knowing I have a good friend like you makes me feel much better.

Marcus Okay, if you say so. I'll call you later this evening to check on you.

Darius That would be cool. I love you.

Marcus I love you too, Darius. Remember, we'll deal with this together.

EXITS stage left

(They hug and look each other in the eye. Marcus leaves stage left. Darius goes near the sofa and prays. As he prays, Dybok and his henchmen are furious and start to make all kinds of wild sounds and noises. David walks into the living room from stage left. He stops at the door as he sees Darius praying and looks inquisitive.)

NOISE NEEDS to get real Low

David I'm going to ask you one more time; you're scaring me with that bullshit of keeping things to yourself. *(Looking more angry than scared.)* What's up D?

Darius I — if it's okay with you David, I have to work some things out, and I have to do it alone.

David We're in this together, right? That's the bullshit you taught me: we can always work things out together. That's what you tell me when I got shit on my head. I come to you with my problems. What's up? I ain't got enough sense to help you through your shit? Why can't I be a friend sometimes? Why can't I ever have the chance to show you how supportive and understanding I can be? Oh I know why, because you have Marcus. I bet whatever it is you're going through, you already told Marcus about it, didn't you?

Darius No, David, I haven't.

Bordering violence!!!

David Don't lie to me. *(He looks Darius in the eyes.)* Why you always got to be the one that handles everything by yourself? Why don't I ever get a chance to be part of your life in that way? I really feel like I add to your life. Thanks a lot Darius. Thanks for allowing me to be a fuckin' friend

and a fuckin' lover. (He looks at Darius in disappointment.)

Darius Maybe we should call it off.

David Call what off? *need to face each OTHER*

Darius This. (He gestures with his hands, meaning their relationship.)

248

(David stops and stares at Darius hurt and puzzled. Darius turns away from David and they both freeze. The set goes black on the tableau, then a red spotlight hits Dybok and his henchmen in the corner of the stage. You can hear voices but cannot make out what they are saying until Dybok speaks out louder.)

DAVID EXITS STAGE RIGHT / VOICES from
DARIUS EXITS STAGE LEFT + the henchmen

Dybok No, no, no! We need something that will hook them like we just hooked old sissy boy. We have reports from all over the world my army of viruses are making much progress in our assault on the human race. (He runs off real statistics on AIDS by sex, race, and age.) But tonight we need to do something big, real big.

Malice Why don't we go by the hospital and contaminate some blood? That's always fun, Boss.

Ahriman No, Malice, that won't work. People are careful with blood these days.

Dybok Besides, that's no evil fun, that's just evil,

(They all laugh.)

Liar Lust won't work, we can't use lust. Lust will get 'em every time. We can't lose with lust, it works every time.

Dybok Lust, That's a very bad idea. I love it. But the question is still how? How can we infect by the thousands at one time? (As Dybok and his henchmen think, Azreal is humming "The Freaks

LUST
Come Out at Night.")

Azreal (Singing) "... dance, freaks/get out your seat..." (Azreal he makes some erotic dance moves.)

Malice Azreal kicks up my lust every time ~~he makes some erotic dance moves~~ I'll make love to him . . . before I

and a single "lover" (the look in her eyes)

Why don't we should call it off

Call what not? Since it's a fact

This is the way we should be living

It's not the way we should be living

DAVID EYAL'S STRIKE
DAVID EYAL'S STRIKE
No, no, no. We need something that will hook them like we hooked old baby boy. We have

reports from all over the world my story of violence are making much progress in our assault on
the human race. The way of violence is the only way to a new world. That tonight we need

to do something big, real big

Why don't we go by the hospital and contaminate some blood? That's always the best

No, Mollie, that won't work. People are careful with blood these days

Instead, that's no way that that's just not

Don't do that

Just won't work, we can't use that. Just will get you every time. We can't love with that. It

works every time

Just, that's a very bad idea. I love it. But the question is still how? How can we infect by the

thousands of one time? We need a way to infect the whole world

What's the way?

Nothing. I mean, that's not a way to infect the whole world

never)

At least it's up to you but every time I'll make love to him. Before I

kill him.

Dybok

Yes, I know what you mean. If it wasn't for Azreal spreading lust everywhere, we wouldn't have the body count that we have now, nor would we have *[quoted number of infected]* in the world today. But since they did away with the bath houses, *(he looks at the audience as if to say they know what he means)* we're not getting the numbers I want.

Ahriman

It's the music that influences them. People do whatever the music tells them to. It's what they call the "music culture." It's very influential.

Dybok

Don't be silly, you intelligent fool. Since you represent the cunning and insidious arm of my regiment, why don't you come up with something smart or brilliant. If music influences a whole culture, then why aren't we mixing something in the music that may effect an irresponsible, entirely reprehensible, contagious and outrageous human action? You—

(Dybok stops and looks at Azreal ~~then he looks at~~ then he looks at

Ahriman.) I've got it. Lust in the music. Lust in the music. ~~Azreal~~ *(he shouts)!* You have a job to do. You'll work with Ahriman and come up with a potion for "MUSIC AND LUST." *(The henchmen responds with happiness.)*

Malice

Yeah, boss. Then we'll go down to one of the clubs and let Azreal spread the lust around on the dance floor. OOOOH, they have to die.

Dybok

Yes, you're thinking Malice. I can always count on you for a vicious attack on those lost souls called humans.

Azreal

This sounds tragic, *(they all laugh)* very tragic. When I get through spreading lust over them, they will be having unsafe sex all over the city. Let's do it tonight Dybok. *(Looks at Dybok lustfully.)* Let's do it.

Dybok

Ah my Azreal. You always know how to get daddy to say yes.

INTIMATE
EXCHANGE

Bob

All my Axel. You always know how to get daddy to say yes.

Axel

This sounds tragic. Very tragic. When I get through questioning you, we can then

Bob

Yes, you're thinking Meliss. I can always count on you for a vicious attack on what has been

Meliss

Yeah, boss. Then we'll go down to one of the clubs and let Axel prove the last round on the

Bob

to do. You'll work with Meliss and come up with a plan for "MUSIC AND LIST

Bob

of course, I've got it. Last in the music. Last in the music. Axel, the album. You have a job

Bob

entirely responsible, contagious and outrageous business action? You-

Bob

Don't be silly, you intelligent fool. Since you represent the cunning and audacious side of my

Axel

It's the music that influences them. People do what the music tells them to. It's when they

Bob

today. But since they did away with the half breast, the look is the same. We do it to the

Bob

Yes, I know what you mean. It's what I for Axel questioning him everywhere, we wouldn't have

Bob

kill him

INTIMATE
EXCHANGE

Azreal

First I'll start with a mild dose of lustful potion number 7.

439

(Song and Dance Number)

(The dance ends with Dybok and company in a huddle. They start to plan their action.)

AHRIMAN

Dybok

Okay. We'll go to Club 777 tonight and spread doom to all through lust. We'll make them so lustful that they'll come if the wind blows. And we need deceit: Ahriman, you must be at your

best tonight. Lies, lies: give them lies, Liar. Tell them what they want to hear. They want to believe something. Ah the loneliness. We can't have unsafe sex without some hint of irresponsibility. Loneliness can be an excellent by-product of irresponsibility. How best to catch AIDS than with a healthy dose of lust and irresponsibility. And let's blind them. When they see healthy-looking sex objects, they won't care if AIDS lines their intestines like maggots; they'll only see the physical attraction. Oh, how I love the deceit.

DENIAL! DON'T SEE DON'T SEE

Azreal

Dybok, I need to prepare for tonight. May I go and select the music for tonight

Dybok

Yes, of course. And Azreal ...

Azreal

Yes, Dybok?

Dybok

You will be on sex-watch tonight. When you see a potential sexual encounter, work that lust.

You better work, Azreal.

Azreal

Yes.

Azreal

I've lived to help them.

(Everyone gets quiet for a second, then screams at Azreal for his remark.)

Dybok

What is this you say Azreal?

(Ahriman is pacing angrily.)

Liar

He didn't say it. He "lived to help them." He didn't say it, he didn't say it.

Malice

You gotta die, you gotta die! Dybok, let me kill him. Dybok, let me, let me.

429

First I'll start with a mild dose of banal poetry number 7
(Song and Dance Number)

Oh, we'll go to China 777 tonight and spend doom to all through fate. We'll make them so
banal that they'll come if the wind blows. And we need horses. Ah, man, you must be a great
old tonight. Like her give them the line. Tell them what they want to hear. They want to
believe something. At the luncheon. We can't have much sex without some hint of
interpenetration. Luncheon can be an excellent by-product of interpenetration. How best to catch
AIDS than with a healthy dose of love and interpenetration. And let's bleed them. When they see
healthy-looking sex objects, they won't care if AIDS lives their intestines like maggots, they'll
only see the physical attraction. Oh how I love the decay.

Dylok, I need to prepare tonight. May I go and select the music for tonight.

Yes of course. And Axxel...

Yes Dylok?

You will be on my watch tonight. When you see a potential sexual encounter, work that bug.

You better work, Axxel.

Yes.

I've been to help them.

What is this you say Axxel?

the didn't say it. He "tried to help them". He didn't say it, he didn't say it.
You gotta see, you gotta see Dylok, he was kill him. Dylok, he was kill him.

Azreal Are you all touched by some human virus or something? Why are you wanting to do fatal harm to me?

(Azreal gives them a look that mesmerizes them all. They look as if maybe they are wrong.)

Dybok Go on watch, Azreal.

Prospero Something's strange about what Azreal just said.

Dybok Shut up, you fool!

(Prospero doesn't say anything else, but turns and picks up a book and starts to read. The scene freezes, while the lights fade to black.)

End Scene One

225

EVERYONE EXITS STAGE

Are you all touched by some human virus or something? Why are you waiting to do that harm

to me?

At least there's a lot of love in the air. They look as if they're there.

Go on watch, Ansel.

Something's strange about what Ansel just said.

Shut up, you fool!

(The group looks at each other. The room now feels like a cold, empty void. The scene
ends with the group looking at each other.)

End Scene One

Everyone exits stage.

needs ALIZIE

ACT ONE, Scene Two

Darius is sitting and looking into space. He thinks back to when he was a kid. He picks up a photo album and slowly flips through the pages, remembering. Darius comes out of it and pours himself a drink. He then walks around his living observing his world as if he is about to leave it. Azreal appears from a section of the audience. He observes Darius looking somewhat aloof. Azreal begins to smile while looking at Darius in his time of mental turmoil. As Azreal starts to come nearer, Darius turns, sees him, and looks at him somewhat frightened and confused. Azreal looks at Darius puzzled for he knows that he cannot be seen by humans. He looks behind him as if Darius was looking through him and then turns to look at Darius again, even more startled.

Darius Who are you? Where the hell did you come from?

(Darius looks scared and frightened. Azreal is as scared as Darius is.)

Azreal You can't see me. Can you?

Darius What are you doing in my apartment? Get out, get out now. I'm going to call the police. *(He walks to the phone and dials 911)* Hello, this is Darius Evans at 789 Walker Road. I have a burglar in my home. How do I know? Because he's standing here looking at me now. Yes, yes he knows I'm on the phone with you. I guess he's just that damn bold. No, no I don't know him and I've never seen him before in my life. Okay, I'll be here — if he doesn't kill me first. *(Hangs up the phone.)* You gon' get it now. The police will handle you. Come walking up in here in a grim reaper outfit.

Azreal The police will handle me? Ha, that's a joke if ever I heard one. This is remarkable. I can be seen by a real, live human being.

Darius What are you talking about? You must have escaped from the loony farm. You—

(Azreal interrupts.)

where is the feeling

The Policeman's
Uniform

*Please wait
the drama
here*

Azreal You don't get it, do you? No one but you can see me. We have both crossed the paradigm of the spirit and the flesh. I have heard about this experience but I always thought it was a legend or fable of some sort.

Azreal moves out then back again

(There is a loud knock at the door)

Policeman Open up, it's the police.

Darius "Paradigm." Here's a paradigm for yo' ass. Come in, come on in, here he is.

(As the officer enters he looks for a second person, but he sees no one.)

Policeman What is this, some kind of a joke?

Darius A joke? That's the joke *(pointing at Azreal)*. Arrest him. He broke into my apartment. If I wasn't here he probably would have taken everything I own. And I think he's crazy too.

Policeman Is someone else here with you?

Darius What are you talking about? *(He looks startled that the officer is going along with what Darius thinks is some kind of joke)* You don't see him?

Policeman Sir, I'm going to fine you for making false statements and abusing the city's emergency unit. I also think you need to seek some professional help.

Darius Are you serious? What the fuck is? Is this some kind of joke? I am not losing my mind. You need to arrest him and check yourself into the mental ward. I am not crazy and I know you see that criminal misfit ~~standing near that chair~~ *with nowhere*. Why are you doing this to me?

Azreal They don't see me. You and me. It's only you and me in this world.

Darius *(Turns to the policeman and starts to explain.)* I'm under a lot of stress. I just received some bad news and it may be affecting my imagination.

Policeman *(Tearing off the ticket and giving it to Darius)* Here you are sir. Are you sure you don't want me to escort you to see a doctor? Or maybe can I call someone for you, a relative or friend?

Handwritten notes in the top right corner, including "Actual" and "Wet" with some illegible scribbles.

the Bill Comen
Unit form
You don't see it, do you? No one but you can see me. We have both entered the paradigm of the
spies and the bank. I have heard about this experience but I always thought it was a legend or
this of some sort. *Handwritten: parcel maps out of the back*
Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is

Policeman: Open up, it's the police.

Darius: "Pardner", there's a paradigm for you. Come in, come on in, here he is.

Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is

Tollman: What is this some kind of a job?

Darius: A job! That's the job! *Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is* Atten him. He broke into my apartment. It's

warm, here. I: friendship would have taken everything I own. And I think he's crazy too.

Tollman: Is someone else here with you?

Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is

Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is

Tollman: So, I'm going to like you for making this statement and abusing the city's emergency unit. I

also think you need to seek some professional help.

Darius: Are you serious? What the fuck is? Is this some kind of job? I am not losing my mind. You

used to arrest him and check yourself into the mental ward. I am not crazy and I know you are

that criminal with *Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is* ~~somebody~~. Why are you doing this to me?

They don't see me. You and me. It's only you and me in this world.

Darius: *Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is* You're in the *Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is* I'm under a lot of stress. I just received some

bad news and it may be affecting my imagination.

Tollman: *Handwritten: I have a good idea of what it is* I'm sorry, I don't know you are sir. Are you sure you don't want

me to escort you to see a doctor? Or maybe can I call someone for you, a relative or friend?

Darius No, that's all right, I'll be fine. I'm sorry for the inconvenience. *Why am I feeling?*

Policeman Have a nice evening sir. *You look lonely. I might even say that you're hurt.*

(The policeman leaves and Darius turns to Azreal looking more accepting of the situation.)

Darius Who the hell are you?

Azreal I am Azreal, I am a spirit of lust and intrigue.

Darius Lust and intrigue? Well I'll be damned, of all spirits I get the spirit of lust. What role do you play in the world of the spirits?

Azreal I belong to Dybok's Clan. Our mission is to infect as many people as possible with the AIDS virus or anything else for that matter.

Darius Well, here I am, your infected victim. I'm ready to die.

(As Darius starts to look hurt and sad, Azreal starts to empathize. He gives Darius a puzzled look as if a revelation had just occurred.)

Azreal Something is wrong. I am—I am not myself. Someone—I want to be near someone. Touch me, hold me. *(He moves nearer to Darius.)*

Darius HOLD YOU? The boy has lost his god given senses. You're in my apartment having a conversation with me, you're not even welcome, and you want me to hold you. If you don't know it, I have a lover.

(As Darius mentions having a lover Azreal holds his heart as if it was broken)

Azreal ~~No~~ please, ~~please~~ just once, touch me. I beg you, just touch me. I need to be touched.

(Darius looks at Azreal with suspicion as he slowly starts to walk toward him)

Azreal Please. *(Like a small child looking sad.) My heart is so heavy.*

(Darius slowly continues to walk toward Azreal. They extend their arms toward one another until their fingers touch. Azreal takes in a deep breath in reaction to touching Darius's finger tip.)

Barry

No, that's all right, I'll be fine. I'm sorry for the inconvenience.

Policeman

Have a nice evening sir.

(The policeman leaves and Barry starts to stand looking more uneasy of the situation.)

Barry

Who the hell are you?

Archie

I am Archie. I am a sort of test and intrigue.

Barry

Test and intrigue? Well I'll be damned, of all spirits I get the spirit of test. What else do you play

in the world of the spirit?

Archie

I belong to Dylis's Clan. Our mission is to infect as many people as possible with the AIDS

virus or anything else for that matter.

Barry

Well, here I am your infected victim. I'm ready to die.

Archie

Something is wrong. I am I am not myself. Someone I want to be near someone. Touch me

hold me (Archie weeps in Barry's arms)

Barry

HOLD YOUR! The boy has lost his God given center. You're in my apartment having a

conversation with me, you're not even welcome, and you want me to hold you. If you don't

know it, I have a lover!

Archie

Please! Please! Just once, touch me. I beg you, just touch me. I need to be touched.

Archie

Please! Please! Just once, touch me. I beg you, just touch me. I need to be touched.

Archie

Please! Please! Just once, touch me. I beg you, just touch me. I need to be touched.

Azreal *(as if he just figured out a troubling dilemma)* Oh, What is it? Why am I feeling?

Darius *(Looking more sensitive)* You look lonely. I might even say that you're hurt.

Azreal That's impossible; Dybok's clan doesn't feel. There must be something wrong with me. You can see me. I can see you. I can *(he stops speaking again as if he figured out another peace of a puzzle)* feel? Can I possibly be feeling? *(Then with sudden aggressive curiosity, he questions Darius.)* How do you feel when you feel? How do you know? How do you know when you have feelings?

Darius Get off of me.

Azreal How? I need to know. Tell me.

Darius Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Hold up.

Azreal You will tell me. You will tell me now.

Darius Calm down, I'll tell you. Well it depends on which feeling you may be talking about.

Azreal What about when your heart is heavy? ~~And there is pressure on it~~ And, and you just want to hold someone. You just want to hold them and have them hold you. Hold you so tight that your hearts would beat in rhythm and you share warmth. Oh, what is it? What is wrong with me?

Darius You're hurting. You're hurt and alone. You feel lonely.

Azreal *(Azreal let's out a big cry.)* Are you hurting now? Do you feel lonely now?

Darius I feel extremely lonely. What ever you are, I guess you're part of my destiny.

Azreal Is this the way one feels when he has the virus?

Darius Oh I guess it will feel worse soon. I don't know what I'm feeling now.

Azreal Is it true that all of you people in this world have emotions and can touch?

Darius Yeah. *(He looks at Azreal)* Where do you come from? If I'm gonna be crazy I might as well know something about the people in this insane dream.

Alex: How do you feel when you feel? How do you know? How do you know when you
 have feelings?
 Dan: Get out of me.
 Alex: How? I need to know. Tell me.
 Dan: Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Hold up.
 Alex: You will tell me. You will tell me now.
 Dan: Calm down. I'll tell you. Well it depends on which feeling you may be telling about.
 Alex: What about when your heart is heavy? ~~Is it a heavy feeling?~~ And, and you just want to
 hold someone. You just want to hold them and have them hold you. Hold you so tight that your
 heart would beat in rhythm and you share warmth. Oh, what is it? What is wrong with me?
 Dan: You're hurting. You're hurt and alone. You feel lonely.
 Alex: (sighs) Are you hurting now? Do you feel lonely now?
 Dan: I feel extremely lonely. What ever you are, I guess you're part of my destiny.
 Alex: Is this the way one feels when he has the virus?
 Dan: Oh I guess it will feel worse soon. I don't know what I'm feeling now.
 Alex: Is it true that all of your people in this world have emotions and can feel?
 Dan: Yeah. We feel it all. Where do you come from? If I'm gonna be crazy I might as well
 know something about the people in this insane dream.

Azreal I can ask you to tell me the same. But I know this is real. There is a reason for what's happening to us. I read it in the Book of paradigms. It is a book that tells of destiny. Destinies of the clan of Dybok.

Darius So what is it Azreal? Tell me what is this paradigm shift that you're speaking of?

Azreal It is written that every two thousand years, the spirit world and the flesh world would coexist for 13 hours. During this period, one of the members of the clan is chosen to be set free from Dybok. We were all warriors for Atasis, the most noble of all men. Atasis is a God of goodness and mercy.

Darius You once were a warrior of goodness and mercy?

Azreal Yes, yes I was.

Darius What happened?

Azreal During battle against Dybok and his kingdom, I was on watch when a gorgeously stunning beauty walked out of a thick cloudy fog. She was dressed in purple with thick ebony black hair running down her back. Her tone was that of gold. She was the most beautiful woman I had ever seen. Atasis had warned us not to give in to her, but I couldn't resist. For my lack of loyalty and for giving in to lust, I was condemned to Dybok's Clan. Why? Why me? OH GOD! "God?" I said "god?" AND this is what I've become

Darius ~~Yes you did~~ where ARE you going?

(Azreal starts to back away from Darius and points at him.)

Azreal I'll be back. I'll be back. (He runs toward the cave.) Exit stage right

(The scene changes to the cave where Dybok and his clan take refuge. The clansmen are sleeping. Azreal enters the cave out of breath and looking as if he has seen a ghost. He picks up a book from the floor and quickly flips through the pages until he finds the page that he is looking for. He starts to read in whisper, careful not to wake the others.)

HENCHMEN ASLEEP IN THE CAVE
DYBOK IN THE CENTER OF THE ROOM
LADDERS
LIAR- STAGE RIGHT
AHIRMEN- STAGE LEFT

I can ask you to tell me the same. But I know this is real. There is a reason for what's

happening to us. I read it in the Book of parashim. It is a book that tells of destiny. Destiny

of the clan of Dylak.

So what is it, Alysia? Tell me what is this parashim about that you're speaking of?

It is written that every two thousand years the spirit world and the flesh world would merge for

13 hours. During this period, one of the members of the clan is chosen to be the first

Dylak. We were all waiting for Alysia, the most noble of all men. Alysia is a God of goodness

and mercy.

You once were a warrior of goodness and mercy?

Yes, yes I was.

What happened?

During battle against Dylak and his kingdom, I was on watch when a young woman

passed by. She was dressed in purple with thick ebony black hair

running down her back. Her eyes were like gold. She was the most beautiful woman I had

ever seen. Alysia had wanted me not to give in to her, but I couldn't resist. For my lack of

loyalty and for giving in to her, I was condemned to Dylak's Clan. ~~My life was over.~~

AND THIS IS WHAT I'VE BECOME

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

REVENGE WHEN ARE YOU GOING?

Azreal And he that is chosen shall feel that of the spirit of goodness...

(As Azreal reads on, Prospero slowly peeks up and listens to Azreal reading.)

Azreal ...and shall do the work to nourish those of the flesh with spirituality, acceptance, and freedom from self imposed bondage. No, this can't be.

(As he turns pages in search of more information, Prospero interrupts.)

Prospero What are you doing Azreal?

Azreal *(Looking nervously at Prospero)* Oh, nothing. I'm just reading.

Prospero What is that you're reading?

Azreal The Omen of the clan of Dybok.

Prospero What was all that muttering about "spirits and flesh?"

Azreal *(Laughing it off)* I was just reading about the Paradigm of the spirit and flesh. This is all so silly: paradigms, huh?

(Prospero looks at Azreal with suspicion. Azreal quickly excuses himself. Prospero watches as Azreal leaves. Once Azreal is out of sight, Prospero awakens Dybok.)

Prospero Dybok, wake up. Dybok!

(Dybok wakes up looking and acting evil as usual.)

Dybok What is it Prospero? Where do you get the guts to awaken me from my beauty sleep? I should—

Prospero *Dybok rises from waist up*
Azreal is up to something.

Dybok What do you mean, "up to something?"

Prospero He was reading about the Paradigm of the spirit and the flesh.

Dybok So what? Is that why you have awakened me?

Prospero *Dybok stands*
Dybok, He has been chosen by the guardian angel as the omen states.

Dybok What makes you so sure?

11

And he that is chosen shall feel that of the spirit of goodness.

(The chosen shall feel that of the spirit of goodness.)

And shall do the work to glorify those of the flesh with spiritual, abundance, and freedom.

From self imposed bondage. No, this can't be.

(The chosen shall feel that of the spirit of goodness.)

What are you doing, Aysel?

(I look at Aysel, at her eyes) Oh, nothing. I'm just reading.

What is that you're reading?

The Green of the skin of Egypt.

What was all that ranting about "spins and flesh"?

(I look at Aysel, at her eyes) I was just reading about the freedom of the spirit and flesh. This is all so silly.

paradise, huh?

(The chosen shall feel that of the spirit of goodness.)

Dylok, wake up, Dylok!

(The chosen shall feel that of the spirit of goodness.)

What is it, Dylok? What do you get the girls to whisper me from my beauty sleep? I should.

Dylok rises from under up.

Aysel is up to something.

What do you mean, "up to something"?

He was reading about the freedom of the spirit and the flesh.

So what? Is that why you have awakened me?

Dylok, he has been chosen by the goddess and is the chosen one.

What makes you so sure?

Prospero It has been two-thousand years to the date that it is written of the paradigm shift. The paradigm shift takes place every two-thousand years. I tell you, it is Azreal who will betray us all.

Dybok Watch what you say about Azreal. For all I know, you may have been chosen to this god-~~ly~~ deed.

(Dybok looks at Prospero with extreme hate. He makes a motion with his hand as if to grab a rope with one hand and starts to twist it. As he twists the unseen rope, Prospero is being strangled. Prospero tries to break free from the unseen force but cannot let out a scream. He is too weak to compete against Dybok's power. The other clan members sleep through the killing except Ahriman, who peeks and witnesses the killing.)

Dybok So, the time has come ha ha ha ha. Just as I did two thousand years ago, so I will do now. I will stop at nothing to keep the paradigm shift from achieving its goal.

(As the lights dim a soft spotlight shines on Ahriman. Before blacking out he shows hysteria on his face.)

End Scene Two

EVERYONE EXITS

INTERMISSION

NO HENCHMEN (EXCEPT AZREAL)

ACT ONE, Scene Three

ARE ONSTAGE AZREAL IS ON IN THE AUDIENCE

The scene shifts back to Darius's living room. As the lights come up, David enters the living room. He looks as if he has lost his best friend and just sits on the couch.

David

I can't let it go down like this. All my life I ran from whatever was important to me. I always took the easy way out. Quit school, never took responsibility for anything, never really cared about anything. I never told anyone I loved them. I never told anyone when I was hurt. I just kept everything to myself. I'd laugh with the fellows about a lot of things, but half of what I laughed at wasn't funny. It was never me to show who I really was. I had some of the most *change this line* gorgeous women a man could want.

Azreal peeks from a spot. He is sensitive to what David is saying. At this point he feels all of what Darius feels.

David

change this line
I had some of the finest men a man or woman would want. My image would not allow me to fight to hold on to what I wanted. If I thought I was about to be cut loose, I would break it off first. I had to do the rejecting. You wasn't going to get the chance to tell me you don't love me, before I got the chance to say it first. That way I could tell myself, "they only said that because I said it to them first." Why? Why don't I fight for what I want? I asked myself that tonight. But I prayed first. I prayed that god would just give me the faith and courage to face you. Something is hurting my baby. *(He begins to speak with emotional persuasion.)* I can't leave you like that. DARIUS ENTERS STAGE RIGHT I would have never thought that I would be, *(pauses)* Darius, I love you. I love you man. Let me show you I love you.

There is a frightening silence between the two of them before Darius speaks.

Darius My test came back positive. *(He speaks gently, as if the tone will lessen impact.)*

David stares at Darius. He displays a meaningful look of understanding. He walks over to Darius and holds him without saying a word. They rock from side to side while holding each other.

David We don't even have to talk about it until you're ready. I'm here for you, and I'm not leaving. I love you.

Azreal comes out of the audience. He is emotional from the experience of identifying with the emotions and interaction between two people.

Azreal *(Weeping.)* Oh, that was so touching.

Darius is startled by Azreal's voice and jumps while in David's arms. David looks at Darius strangely.

Azreal We need to talk.

Darius We do not need to talk. *(He is speaking to Azreal, but David responds first.)*

David Yeah, I know, we don't have to talk now.

Azreal You have to get rid of him. We must talk. Now.

Darius Would you stop screaming in my ear? I can hear perfectly well.

David I didn't say anything.

Darius Oh, sorry. I was just thinking about a situation today: this lady told this other lady, "would you stop screaming in my ear?" It was just the way she said it, I was trying to mock her. Hey, it's only the two of us here, right?

David *(Looks at Darius with squinted eyes of puzzlement.)* Unless you have someone here. Are you all right Darius?

777

Darius Yes, yes I'm all right. Hey, why don't we go down to ~~The Palace~~ tonight and have a couple of drinks. Then maybe we can talk about this. But I need to be alone right now.

David It's your call. As long as we're not talking about breaking up.

Azreal *(Still nagging at Darius)* Come on, hurry, hurry.

Darius Would you stop it.

David Stop what?

Azreal Now look what you did. He was on his way out the door.

David Are you sure you're all right?

Azreal Just tell him yes.

Darius Sure, sure. I'm all right, I'm going to lie down on the couch. What time tonight?

David Eight o'clock.

Darius I'll be there.

David Love you.

Darius Me too.

David exits.

Stage right

Azreal Oh, it's a beautiful thing.

Darius What are you doing back here?

Azreal You can't go to the club tonight.

Darius And why can't I?

Azreal Dybok and the clan are planning to poison the club with a dangerous potion of lust and irresponsibility.

Darius Dybok and his Clan? You mean you and Dybok are planning on raiding the club.

Azreal Well, I guess that's what I mean.

Darius I still can't believe what's happening to me. As far as anyone else is concerned, I'm standing here, talking to myself.

Azreal I can't believe what's happening to me either. I actually speak, feel, and touch the living.

Darius Please Azreal, tell me I'm not crazy.

Azreal You're not crazy Darius. What's happening to us is one of the most incredible experiences ever to happen in a lifetime. Your life is good, it has meaning. Once you leave it, you don't get it back. That's why you have to hold dear to your life. You have to nourish it, cradle it, hold it ever so gently.

Darius How can I hold on to AIDS Azreal? How can I live, nourish, or cradle what has happened to me?

Azreal It's not AIDS that you must hold on to Darius; it's life. It's like magic. God won't give you anything you can't handle. It may seem so cruel and thoughtless right now, but you have today you have this moment just as I have it. This moment is yours, it's yours to do with it whatever you want.

Darius I'm losing my mind. *(He starts to weep.)* Who the fuck are you? What do you want with me?

Azreal Faith, Darius. Have faith. Faith is like magic. You don't see it, but it's there.

("If It's Magic" by Stevie Wonder)

Azreal Darius, we have work to do. We must stop Dybok from attacking the club with his vicious curses.

Darius What is it you want me to do. I'm not trying to tangle with this Dybok and his Clan—or anyone else for that matter.

Azreal You must.

Darius Why must I?

Azreal A thousand people are in danger. And David and Marcus as well.

Darius David and Marcus?

Azreal Yes, David and Marcus.

Darius How are they in danger?

Azreal Music. Tonight we are going to slip a micky in the music. To force totally irresponsible behavior.

Darius In the music?

Azreal Yes, believe me. People's lives are at stake.

Darius What can I do?

Azreal You go to the club and stay close to David and Marcus. I'll do the rest.

Darius This is too much.

Azreal Darius?

Darius Okay, okay. I'm in. But what are you planning to do against Dybok?

Azreal Faith, Darius. Do the right thing and have faith. I'll see you tonight.

Amos

Baron, we have work to do. We must stop Tybalt from attacking the club with his vicious

curse

Baron

What is it you want me to do? I'm not trying to tangle with this Tybalt and his Clan-or anyone

else for that matter

Amos

I'm sure

Baron

Why not?

Amos

A thousand people are in danger. And David and Marcus are

David and Marcus?

Baron

Yes, David and Marcus

Amos

How are they in danger?

Baron

Amos, Tybalt was going to kill a judge in the middle. To force totally irresponsible

behavior

Baron

in the middle?

Amos

Yes, before now, people's lives are at stake

Baron

What can I do?

Amos

You go to the club and stay close to David and Marcus. I'll do the rest

Baron

This is too much

Amos

Baron?

Baron

Okay, okay. I'm afraid. But what are you planning to do against Tybalt?

Amos

First, Baron. Do the right thing and have faith. I'll see you tonight

Darius

Azreal? Be careful.

End Act One

Act Two, Scene One

The stage is a bar. A group of people are entering the club. Tina is behind the bar, looking at the clock. A man is walking by and Tina is looking at him. She is looking at the clock and the man is looking at her. She is looking at the clock and the man is looking at her. She is looking at the clock and the man is looking at her.

(David is seated at the table. Marcus is at the bar.)

Bobby Can I buy you a drink, handsome?

David Thanks, even though I'm left.

David Now I'm a left man. Thanks anyway.

Bobby Well, can I get you something to eat?

Marcus He's a left man, and he's not hungry. But I am. Would you like to buy me a drink or get me something to eat?

Bobby What do you feel like drinking? What?

David Yo, Marcus, you had enough to drink. We have to be clear headed when Darius gets here, you know.

Marcus Okay, all right. (He looks at the clock.) All clear.

Tina Marcus, I've been here a long time. I haven't seen you in a long time.

Marcus Working girl. You know us working girls, we gotta make the dollars to stay ahead of the game.

David What game?

Marcus Oh, my friend, don't you know?

Amesbury, Massachusetts

Act Two, Scene One

The scene opens with music as people are entering the club. Tina the barmaid is pouring Marcus and David a drink. A drunk comes by and tries to talk to David. David is acting somewhat distant because of the news he received from Darius. He just looks at the guy as if he was somewhat amusing.

DAVID is seated at the table MARCUS is at the bar with Tina
Bobby enters from stage left

Bobby Can I buy you a drink, handsome?

David Naw, I'm a'ight man. Thanks anyway.

Bobby Well, can I get you something to eat?

David is about to answer when Marcus jumps in.

Marcus He's not thirsty, and he's not hungry. But I am. Would you like to buy me a drink or get me something to eat?

Bobby What do you feel like drinking? What—

David intervenes between them.

David Yo, Marcus, you had enough to drink. We have to be clear headed when Darius gets here man.

Marcus Okay, all right. *(Making a gesture as if clearing his head.)* All clear.

Tina Marcus baby where you been? I haven't seen you in a long time.

Marcus Working girl. You know us working girls, we gots to make the dollars to stay ahead of the game.

David What game?

Marcus Being grand, don't you know?

Act Two, Scene One

THE ACT opens with music as people are entering the club. This the first time in the play that the music is heard. It is a slow, steady, rhythmic melody, a kind of background music, a kind of a "theme" for the scene. The music is a kind of a "theme" for the scene. The music is a kind of a "theme" for the scene.

DAVID'S seated at the table. MARCUS, who is a friend of David's, is sitting next to him. They are both looking at each other and talking.

DAVID: Can I buy you a drink, handsome?

MARCUS: Nah, I'm a light man. Thanks anyway.

DAVID: Well, can I get you something to eat?

MARCUS: I'm not hungry, and he's not hungry. But I am. Would you like to buy me a drink or get me something to eat?

DAVID: What do you feel like drinking? What?

MARCUS: (To David) I'm not hungry, and he's not hungry. But I am. Would you like to buy me a drink or get me something to eat?

DAVID: Yo, Marcus, you had enough to drink. We have to be clear headed when David gets here.

MARCUS: Okay, all right. (To David) I'm not hungry, and he's not hungry. But I am. Would you like to buy me a drink or get me something to eat?

DAVID: Marcus baby where you been? I haven't seen you in a long time.

MARCUS: Working girl. You know as working girls, we got to make the bucks to stay ahead of the game.

DAVID: What game?

MARCUS: Being drunk, don't you know?

Tina Hello.

David Y'all tripping.

Bobby You want a drink or what? It's too many folks in here for me to be waiting on you.

Marcus Look, my brother, walk. Now walk.

David Yo my brother go 'head. Move on, man.

Bobby But I wanted to talk to you anyway. Why he in the picture? I don't—

Tina Bobby, leave our guests alone. Go on ahead now with your drunk ass.

Bobby "Drunk ass." My drunk ass is keeping you employed. You better—

David Yo, yo, yo. I'll have a drink with you later, okay?

Tina *(Under her breath, with attitude.)* He'll be all right.

Bobby You ain't gonna drink with me. You just telling me that. *(Looking sad)*

David Come on, one drink a'ight? I'll be right back. *HEADS TOWARD THE BAR*

Tina Well I'll be damned. I've been trying to get with him for two years now and he hasn't given me the time of day.

Marcus He don't do fish. He's allergic to tuna.

David Yo man, I never told you I don't do fish.

Marcus "Darius?" Sounds like beef to me.

David The guy is lonely. A few minutes won't hurt nothin'.

Tina Hell, I'm lonely, you wanna sit an talk with me? *DAVID goes back to the Table*

David looks at Tina with a smirk as he and the drunk walk to another side of the bar.

Yana

Well, I'm lonely, you want to sit with me?

That's all right, I'll be right with you.

David

The guy is lonely. A few minutes won't hurt anybody.

Marcus

"Darius" sounds like he's into me.

David

You mean, I never told you I don't do that.

Marcus

He does! He's into it. He's allergic to me.

the time of day.

Yana

Well, I'll be damned. I've been trying to get with him for two years now and he hasn't given me

David

Come on, one drink a night? I'll be right back.

David's Journal
The Day

Bobby

You ain't gonna drink with me. You just telling me that. (looking sad)

Tina

That's all right, I'll be right back.

David

Yo, yo, yo. I'll have a drink with you later, okay?

Bobby

"Frank" is "My drunk" and is keeping you employed. You better-

Tina

Bobby, leave our guests alone. Go on ahead now with your drunk ass.

Bobby

But I wanted to talk to you anyway. Why he in the picture? I don't-

David

Yo my brother go ahead. Move on, man.

Marcus

Look, my brother, wait. How well.

Bobby

You want a drink or what? It's too many folks in here for me to be waiting on you.

David

I'll be right back.

Tina

Hello

Tina Now I don't like this. Before you came in he was acting distant as if something is wearing him out emotionally.

Marcus It's Darius, Tina. *(In a more serious tone.)* Our boy has a battle ahead of him.

Tina The virus?

Marcus I'm only telling you because I know you care for Darius just as much as anyone he knows.

Tina How's he dealing with it?

Marcus Well I would imagine that he's numb or full of fear right now. We know people with the virus that are doing so well, and we know some who passed on a few months after being diagnosed. I would imagine that those are some of the thoughts in his head.

Tina *(Extremely nervous)* What should I do? He's coming here tonight. I don't know what to say. Marcus how should I act?

Marcus Sybil girl, get a grip. Be yourself. his friend.

Tina Damn! Oh, Darius.

Marcus Yeah. God willing, we'll all have healthy days ahead.

#2
Que
Henchmen ENTER from stage left + 1/3 right
The entire set freezes and the lights are dimmed on the club. The lights come up on the Clan in the cave.

Dybok Azreal, there is talk among us that the paradigm shift is taking place and that youuuuu are the chosen one. *TURN to face* What do you make of that?

Azreal The paradigm? You mean the paradigm shift of the spirit and the flesh?

Liar Tell the truth Azreal, you honest liar. He'll never tell us, the truth, the truth, you will tell lies,

Tim

Now I don't like this. Before you came in he was acting different as if something is wrong with
out emotionally.

Miner

It's Darin. Tim. He's not a doctor. Our boy has a doctor ahead of him.

Tim

The virus?

Miner

I'm only telling you because I know you care for Darin just as much as anyone he knows.

Tim

How's he dealing with it?

Miner

Well I would imagine that he's numb as hell of late right now. We know people with the virus
that are doing so well, and we know some who passed on a few months after being diagnosed. I
would imagine that there are some of the thoughts in his head.

Tim

What should I do? He's coming here tonight. I don't know what to say.
Matter how should I act?

Miner

Just get a grip. Be yourself, his friend.

Tim

Thank you, Darin.

Miner

Yeah, God willing, we'll all have healthy days ahead.

#2
W2

He's not a doctor. He's not a doctor. He's not a doctor. He's not a doctor. He's not a doctor.

Byrd

Anyway, there is talk around us that the paradigm shift is taking place and that you mean are the
chosen one. What do you make of that?

Amel

The paradigm? You mean the paradigm shift of the spirit and the flesh?

Tell the truth Amel, you haven't. He'll never tell us the truth, the truth, you will tell us.

All lies lies, the truth, lies the truth, lies . . .

Dybok Liar, you sense honesty and truth amongst us.

Liar Lies, the truth. Lies, the truth. *(He moves his head from side to side as he keeps repeating, "lies, the truth.")*

Malice Flesh, I smell flesh. *(He sticks out and wags his tongue as he closes his eyes to the heavenly taste of flesh.)* Death for the living, death for the living.

Dybok What is happening here Azreal?

(As Dybok points toward Malice and Liar, Azreal starts to show considerable nervousness)

Dybok Azreal, suddenly you're not so . . . *(pausing as he looks for the right word)* . . . appealing to me.

Ahriman It is happening. He is the one that has been chosen. *(Ahriman closes his eyes and raises his head toward Azreal. He mystically pulls knowledge from Azreal.)* He has knowledge of touch. He knows of feelings, good feelings.

Azreal *(with uncertainty)* I know of no such thing.

Dybok Oh, don't deny it Azreal. *(With euphoric, sensual ecstasy. He is sensing for the first time human emotion and fear)* I am you Azreal. Ahhh, you must die. But first, you will go with us to the club and complete our massacre.

Azreal I did not ask to be the chosen one. I am still a clansman. Dybok, why must we kill hundreds of innocent people?

Dybok Listen to yourself Azreal. You are one of them now. You are . . . clean, unworthy to be a clansman.

question

Listen to yourself, Aysel. You are one of them now. You are... clear, unwavering to be a

human people?

I did not ask to be the chosen one. I am still a human. Dybol, why must we fill hundreds of

in the ship and compromise our mission.

because... I am you, Aysel. Aysel, you must die. But that, you will go with you

Oh, don't deny it, Aysel. (His eyes are staring at her). It's coming for the first time

(softly whispering). I know of no such thing.

He knows of feelings, good feelings.

And now... (looking at her). He knows of feelings. He has knowledge of feelings.

It is happening. It is the one that has been chosen. (His eyes are staring at her).

Aysel, suddenly you are not so... (looking at her). It's coming for the first time... responding to me.

(The sound of a heartbeat). Aysel, and this... (looking at her). It's coming for the first time...

What is happening here, Aysel?

And now... (looking at her). It's coming for the first time... responding to me.

Flash, I smell flash. (He looks out and sees a bright light). It's coming for the first time...

and the light.

Liar, the truth. Liar, the truth. (The sound of a heartbeat). It's coming for the first time...

Liar, you came honestly and truth emerges as

All lies lie, the truth, lies the truth, lies

Azreal

Dybok—

Dybok

Enough, Azreal. *(Dybok points his two fingers at Azreal's eyes and starts to chant.)*

Ommmmm . . . Ommmmm. Atasis you holy bastard. You will never stop me. *(Dybok starts*

to wave his hands to break his clan out of their mind traps). We will now plan our AIDS

massacre on the club. And Azreal will still perform his lust ritual. Everyone prepare for murder, deceitful, conniving evil.

ALL HENCHMEN EXIT

The scene goes back to the club. Darius is just entering the club, as he looks for Marcus and David with urgency.

Darius

Tina?

Tina

Hey Darius baby. How you feeling?

Darius

Did you see David and Marc— *(notices Marcus)* oh, there you are. I'm so glad to see you.

Where is David?

Marcus

He's over there having a drink with a drunk. How are you doing?

Darius

Oh, what can I say? Life is still one of my blessings.

Marcus

(Giving Tina a questioning look.) Well, you seem to be accepting things much better all of a sudden. Ooh, look at that boy over there.

Darius

DON'T SAY THAT!

Marcus

Woah dude, okay I won't. I didn't know you felt so strongly about me talking to other guys.

Tina

Uh, excuse me. Are you two seeing each other?

Darius

Of course not. I just don't think you should be flirting tonight.

Marcus

Me? Not flirt? I'll miss Memorial Day in D.C. before I stop flirting with the boys. It's my—

Darius Not tonight Marcus. Not tonight. Do it for me? Please?

Tina What's going on Darius?

Darius Nothing's going on, I just want us all to spend this night together, all right?

Marcus Darius, you seem so hyped up. Are you—

Darius Where is David?

Tina He's over there with—

Darius Wait here. *(He walks over to the table where David is sitting and laughing with the drunk.)*
David.

David Hey, what's up Darius?

Bobby So this is Darius. The love of your life.

David Yes it is. This is my baby. *(He pulls Darius close.)*

Darius David, come on. Let's go over to the bar with Tina and Marcus.

David A'ight,

Bobby Wait a minute. You ain't takin' my man no where.

David What?

Darius Well, just let me borrow "your" man for about a life time, all right?

Bobby I said—

David Okay dog, I said I would have a drink with you, and I did. The end.

Bobby Why can't I ever meet someone who— *(He sees another good looking guy in the club and makes*

tracks to get to him.) Hey sexy, can I buy you a drink?

David *(Walking back to the bar with Darius)* You a'ight? You seem a little uptight.

Darius I'm fine. It's just that we all need to stay together tonight.

Tina Darius, what the hell is going on?

Darius Well, I know "Ms. Enquirer" here told you about my test.

Tina Yes, Marcus told me. Is there anything at all I can do for you?

Darius As a matter of fact there is. Just help me watch these two tonight.

David and Marcus look at each other and shrug their shoulders.

Marcus And what is that supposed to mean?

David Something is up.

Darius Oh, no. I just feel that I need to stay close to both of you tonight.

Marcus Well, why don't we go to your house and have a menage a trois? That way you can—

Darius Boy, the only menage a trois you're gonna get is with you and your two hands.

(They all laugh.)

David Tina, hook us up on some drinks. *(He pauses, then turns to Darius.)* You scared, baby?

Darius Well, I guess I am David. I am terrified. But what can I do?

David One day at a time. We can only take it one day at a time, D.

Marcus That's right. Don't you know you are blessed Darius. A lot of people don't have the friends and support that you have when dealing with the disease.

support that you have when dealing with the disease.

It's a right. I don't see how you can discuss it. A lot of people don't have the funds and

David: That day at a time. We can help with it one day at a time. D.

David: Well, I guess I can't. I am finished. But what can I do?

David: The book we go on some things. (He points to the book on the table) I've started early.

(The end of the play)

David: That's the only message a man can give you. Not in words but in your two hands.

David: Well, why don't we go in your house and have a message's talk. That way you can

David: Oh, no. I just feel that I need to stay close to both of you tonight.

David: I understand it.

David: And what is that supposed to mean?

(David and David look at each other and shake their heads.)

David: As a matter of fact there is. Just help me watch these two tonight.

David: Your Majesty told me. Is there anything we all can do for you?

David: Well, I know "the Emperor" have told you about my son.

David: (David looks at the ball in his hand.)

David: I'm sure it's just that we all need to stay together tonight.

David: (David looks at the ball in his hand) You seem a little tonight.

David: (David looks at the ball in his hand) You seem a little tonight.

Darius Well, I'm not really concerned with that right now. *(He looks around the club as if he is looking for someone.)*

David Who are you looking for?

Tina behind the bar

Marcus Darius, are you sure you're all right? You know, you're acting kinda strange.

Darius Yes, yes, yes. I'm all right. Everything is fine. Or I think it is.

Tina Here's your drinks. Let's have a toast. To friends, long lasting friends.

As they raise their glasses, the scene freezes. Dybok and his clan come into the club, wilding. The entire club is frozen stiff as Dybok and his Clan enter.

Dybok Ahh, the smell of deceit.

BOBBY & DATE @ Table

Liar The smell of mendacity.

*Trent = holding up the wall
Ting to look Butch*

Malice The smell of demise.

Cunning The smell of vileness.

Dybok Oh, oh, how putrid the atmosphere. *(He looks back toward the cave.)* BRING IN AZREAL!!

Turns go to stage left

Henchmen retrieve AZREAL

Azreal is brought out under Dybok's spell. His lust has been taken to another level, and he is even more evil.

Dybok Quick, all of you let's start the invasion before the spell wears off of Azreal. We only have 5 more minutes to complete this massacre of these mindless creatures.

Dybok and the Clan freeze and the humans begin interacting again.

Tina I love you Darius, and no matter what I am here for you. *(She comes from around the bar and gives him a hug)*

Marcus I feel a group hug coming on. *(They all hug one another in a circle.)*

David Yo, let's dance. Come on, all of us.

The entire club starts to dance to monotonous music. After about 30 seconds a loud introduction to Prince's "Dance, Music, Sex, Romance" starts, the humans freeze and the clan begins to dance. During this dance, the clan are infecting the humans with their lies, malice, cunning, and lust.

(*"Dance, Music, Sex, Romance"* by Prince)

At the end of the dance number, the focus has shifted back to the human world. Tina is leading "Getting Kinky" by SWV. Tina will lead the song. During the dance, one of the club employees moves the clock forward one hour to daylight savings time. When the clock is moved up one hour, gradually the humans stop acting so erotic and sensual. Dybok starts to show outrage in his expressions and movement as he senses what is going on. Azreal looks to Dybok with a smile. Darius, not aware of what was taking place sees Azreal.

Darius What is happening? (*Dybok, Freezes in shock, and slowly looks over to Azreal*)

Dybok ~~Azreal~~ *30 seconds* I can hear one of the infected speak. Is this the one with whom you share the paradigm shift?

Azreal just stares.

Darius Who are you?

Dybok Who am I? Who are you?

They both stop and wait for a response. When there is none, Dybok gives the look of a scheming criminal.

Dybok Oh, I know who you are. You must have met Azreal, you're the window to the paradigm.

~~What is your name?~~

START to move

Darius ~~Darius~~ (*He looks at Azreal.*) Who are you? ~~What is your name?~~

Dybok Ha ha ha. You sound unsure of yourself. I detect fear, pain—lots of pain. You're extremely hurt.

MOVES FORWARD UNTIL YOU ARE IN FRONT OF AZREAL!

~~Isolated.~~

Lonely

(David starts to observe that Darius may be delirious from the stress of the day. He slowly goes over to Darius and reaches out to him.)

David Come on, Darius. Come on dude, it'll be all right.

Darius Who are you? Are you Dybok?

Dybok So you have heard of me?

Darius Yes I know who you are. ~~Why? Why? Why?~~

David Come on Darius, let me get you home.

(By this time Marcus is holding Tina as they observe Darius and David.)

Dybok "Why," he asks? Just like a despicable creature. WHY NOT!!!?

Darius You did this to me, WHY?

(Tina and Marcus walk up to Darius and David and reach out to touch Darius. At the same time Darius reaches out to Azreal and touches him.)

David It's all right baby, It's all right.

Marcus Come on Darius, let us get you home.

Tina Yeah, Darius. Let's go home.

Darius I've never done anything to hurt anybody. This motherfucker put this shit on me. You evil son of a bitch. How can you hate innocent people? Tell me!

Dybok Innocent people? You have no idea how much I despise you. You have the gift of life and what do you do with it? You hide. You hide behind your flesh, you give deceit and betrayal to your brothers and sisters. Your spirituality is cloaked in your fear of vulnerability. You are able to

touch each other with humanly affection, but you choose to inflict pain.

You're able to touch a

You tell lies to one another, fatal lies – it's not true, nothing you say is true.

Liar

Malice

You kill each other by the millions without remorse. You're filled with malice.

Ahriman

Knowledge is king in your world, wisdom is like water quenching a dry desert thirst. But you choose to keep each other in mental bondage.

Azreal

The unchanging hand of God will always keep us nourished with wisdom.

Dybok

So you say.

Azreal

To love is to be loved.

Darius

Right Azreal, you're right.

Dybok

To hate is to be hated.

Darius

I don't hate anybody.

David

Shoo, shoo.

Azreal

Why waste life hating?

Dybok

YOU TELL ME AZREAL!!! YOU TELL ME! They are no better than us, they'll kill each other as sure as I am a lying, malice-filled, cunning and insidious heinous nightmare to them.

You're no better than us. You're murderers. If you don't have the money "YOU WON'T

LIVE!! Now you tell me Azreal, is that love for thy fellow humankind. There is nothing

honorable about straddling the lines of good and bad, right and wrong, love and hate. You take

one or the other.

Azreal

Darius you must have faith that God will give you no more than you can handle. NO MORE.

Darius Faith, I must have faith

Marcus You gotta have faith Darius.

David I love you, we love you

Tina You'll find peace somewhere in all of this Darius.

Dybok Well I hope you have an abundance of faith. You will need it to survive this paradigm shift, Azreal.

Azreal My life is in God's hand Dybok, not yours.

Dybok Yes and I got the stairway to heaven to sell you if you believe that one. If God so cared about these people, then why doesn't he intervene. Why doesn't he show himself to the ALMIGHTY DYBOK?

Azreal You know as well as I Dybok, God is not in the business of proving mute points to a wicked monarch of hell. There are miracles among them everyday. To breathe the air, a force unseen, yet so precious to life.

Darius Yes, yes, God has been good to me, maybe he wants me to

Azreal Never Question your God's intent. Just pray that he gives you the courage, the strength, and wisdom to accept, believe, and endure his life-perfecting experiences.

Dybok Azreal, that is enough out of you.

Darius I'm dirty, I am a walking disease.

Azreal That's what we want Darius. We want you to give up on life.

Dybok AZREAL, STOP NOW!!!!

Azreal Pray for an abundance of faith Darius, Pray

Darius I will, I must have faith.

(Dybok grabs Azreal by the hand to take him away but, Darius grabs his other arm.)

Azreal Believe, Darius. There is a reason for your being.

Dybok Azreal, you are worlds apart from them, you will stay with me—for an eternity.

Darius Don't leave me Azreal.

Azreal Just remember there is a glorious place waiting for you Darius. If you love life, you'll keep it, if you hate life, you will lose it.

Dybok Clan, give me a hand. Get him, pull him back from that canker sore of a human.

Darius No, don't leave me alone, I'm not ready,

Azreal You're giving life away, Darius. Walk by faith. The paradigm shift is ending, my destiny is not for me to know. But I'm going to take every step with the joy of knowing that my life belongs to a power that is omnipotent and merciful.

Dybok What are you speaking of Azreal? Diiieeee.

(Dybok wraps a cord around Azreal's neck and begins to strangle him, while the other clan members hold him. Azreal tries to break away from the clan but he is no match for them. As he slowly begins to die, he whispers his final words.)

Azreal Darius, some must die, so that others may live. Live Darius, learn to live.

(Azreal dies. Lights on the clan slowly black out while the clan pick up Azreal's body and take it back to their cave. The lights are on Darius, Tina, David, and Marcus. Darius looks at them as if he is coming out of a nightmare.)

Darius I hate this disease.

David

We hate it too, B.

(They all turn to leave the club. As they leave, the lights go to black. The lights come up on the cave where Dybok and the Clan have Azreal's body, making fun of it.)

Dybok

Remember, I am waiting for anyone of you to make the mistake of being irresponsible. We're waiting.

ALL

Die, Die, Die, Die.

The End

Azreal

Dybok—

Dybok

Enough, Azreal. *(Dybok points his two fingers at Azreal's eyes and starts to chant.)*

Ommmmm . . . Ommmmmm. Atasis you holy bastard. You will never stop me. *(Dybok starts to wave his hands to break his clan out of their mind traps).* We will now plan our AIDS massacre on the club. And Azreal will still perform his lust ritual. Everyone prepare for murder, deceitful, conniving evil.

The scene goes back to the club. Darius is just entering the club, as he looks for Marcus and David with urgency.

Darius

Tina?

Tina

Hey Darius baby. How you feeling?

Darius

Did you see David and Marc— *(notices Marcus)* oh, there you are. I'm so glad to see you. Where is David?

Marcus

He's over there having a drink with a drunk. How are you doing?

Darius

Oh, what can I say? Life is still one of my blessings.

Marcus

(Giving Tina a questioning look.) Well, you seem to be accepting things much better all of a sudden. Ooh, look at that boy over there.

Darius

DON'T SAY THAT!

Marcus

Woah dude, okay I won't. I didn't know you felt so strongly about me talking to other guys.

Tina

Uh, excuse me. Are you two seeing each other?

Darius

Of course not. I just don't think you should be flirting tonight.

Marcus

Me? Not flirt? I'll miss Memorial Day in D.C. before I stop flirting with the boys. It's my—

2000

10

1994

00663

Darius Not tonight Marcus. Not tonight. Do it for me? Please?

Tina What's going on Darius?

Darius Nothing's going on, I just want us all to spend this night together, all right?

Marcus Darius, you seem so hyped up. Are you—

Darius Where is David?

Tina He's over there with—

Darius Wait here. *(He walks over to the table where David is sitting and laughing with the drunk.)*
David.

David Hey, what's up Darius?

Bobby So this is Darius. The love of your life.

David Yes it is. This is my baby. *(He pulls Darius close.)*

Darius David, come on. Let's go over to the bar with Tina and Marcus.

David A'ight,

Bobby Wait a minute. You ain't takin' my man no where.

David What?

Darius Well, just let me borrow "your" man for about a life time, all right?

Bobby I said—

David Okay dog, I said I would have a drink with you, and I did. ~~I did.~~

Bobby Why can't I ever meet someone who— *(He sees another good looking guy in the club and makes*

tracks to get to him.) Hey sexy, can I buy you a drink?

David *(Walking back to the bar with Darius)* You a'ight? You seem a little uptight.

Darius I'm fine. It's just that we all need to stay together tonight.

Tina Darius, what the hell is going on?

Darius Well, I know "Ms. Enquirer" here told you about my test.

Tina Yes, Marcus told me. Is there anything at all I can do for you?

Darius As a matter of fact there is. Just help me watch these two tonight.

David and Marcus look at each other and shrug their shoulders.

Marcus And what is that supposed to mean?

David Something is up.

Darius Oh, no. I just feel that I need to stay close to both of you tonight.

Marcus Well, why don't we go to your house and have a menage a trois? That way you can—

Darius Boy, the only menage a trois you're gonna get is with you and your two hands.

(They all laugh.)

David Tina, hook us up on some drinks. *(He pauses, then turns to Darius.)* You scared, baby?

Darius Well, I guess I am David. I am terrified. But what can I do?

David One day at a time. We can only take it one day at a time, D.

Marcus That's right. Don't you know you are blessed Darius. A lot of people don't have the friends and support that you have when dealing with the disease.

support that you have when dealing with the disease.

That's right. Don't you know you are blessed, Darin. A lot of people don't have the friends and

One day at a time. We can only take it one day at a time. D.

Well, I guess I am David. I am terrified. But what can I do?

That hook is up on some drink. (He's drunk, isn't he?) You scared, baby?

(He's all right.)

Look, the only message a cross you're gonna get is with you and your two hands.

Well, why don't we go to your house and have a message a cross? It's way you can-

Oh, no. I just feel that I need to say close to both of you tonight.

Something is up.

And what is that supposed to mean?

David, don't think about it. Just come and watch your friends.

As a matter of fact there is. Just help me watch these two tonight.

Yes, Marcus told me. Is there anything at all I can do for you?

Well, I know "Mr. Endover" here told you about my test.

Darin, what the hell is going on?

I'm fine. It's just that we all need to say together tonight.

Nothing's going on here. You're right. You seem a little tonight.

What's going on? It's easy, can I say you a drink?

Darius Well, I'm not really concerned with that right now. *(He looks around the club as if he is looking for someone.)*

David Who are you looking for?

Marcus Darius, are you sure you're all right? You know, you're acting kinda strange.

Darius Yes, yes, yes. I'm all right. Everything is fine. Or I think it is.

Tina Here's your drinks. Let's have a toast. To friends, long lasting friends.

As they raise their glasses, the scene freezes. Dybok and his clan come into the club, wilding. The entire club is frozen stiff as Dybok and his Clan enter.

Dybok Ahh, the smell of deceit.

Liar The smell of mendacity.

Malice The smell of demise.

Cunning The smell of vileness.

Dybok Oh, oh, how putrid the atmosphere. *(He looks back toward the cave.)* BRING IN AZREAL!!

Azreal is brought out under Dybok's spell. His lust has been taken to another level, and he is even more evil.

Dybok Quick, all of you let's start the invasion before the spell wears off of Azreal. We only have 5 more minutes to complete this massacre of these mindless creatures.

Dybok and the Clan freeze and the humans begin interacting again.

Tina I love you Darius, and no matter what I am here for you. *(She comes from around the bar and gives him a hug)*

Marcus I feel a group hug coming on. *(They all hug one another in a circle.)*

David Yo, let's dance. Come on, all of us.

The entire club starts to dance to monotonous music. After about 30 seconds a loud introduction to Prince's "Dance, Music, Sex, Romance" starts, the humans freeze and the clan begins to dance. During this dance, the clan are infecting the humans with their lies, malice, cunning, and lust.

("Dance, Music, Sex, Romance" by Prince)

At the end of the dance number, the focus has shifted back to the human world. Tina is leading "Getting Kinky" by SWV. Tina will lead the song. During the dance, one of the club employees moves the clock forward one hour to daylight savings time. When the clock is moved up one hour, gradually the humans stop acting so erotic and sensual. Dybok starts to show outrage in his expressions and movement as he senses what is going on. Azreal looks to Dybok with a smile. Darius, not aware of what was taking place sees Azreal.

Darius What is happening? (*Dybok, Freezes in shock, and slowly looks over to Azreal*)

Dybok Azreal, I can hear one of the infected speak. Is this the one with whom you share the paradigm

~~Da~~

Azreal just stares.

Darius Who are you?

Dybok Who am I? Who are you?

They both stop and wait for a response. When there is none, Dybok gives the look of a scheming criminal.

Dybok Oh, I know who you are. ~~You must have met Azreal,~~ you're the window to the paradigm.

What is your name?

Darius Darius. (*He looks at Azreal.*) Who are you? What is your name?

Dybok Ha ha ha. You sound unsure of yourself. I detect fear, pain—lots of pain. You're extremely hurt.

Isolated.

you're lonely

(David starts to observe that Darius may be delirious from the stress of the day. He slowly goes over to Darius and reaches out to him.)

David Come on, Darius. ~~Come on dude~~, it'll be all right.

Darius Who are you? Are you Dybok?

Dybok So you have heard of me?

Darius Yes I know who you are. ~~Why? Why? Why?~~

David Come on Darius, let me get you home.

(By this time Marcus is holding Tina as they observe Darius and David.)

Dybok "Why," he asks? Just like a despicable creature. WHY NOT!!!!?

Darius You did this to me, WHY?

(Tina and Marcus walk up to Darius and David and reach out to touch Darius. At the same time Darius reaches out to Azreal and touches him.)

David It's all right baby, It's all right.

Marcus Come on Darius, let us get you home.

Tina Yeah, Darius. Let's go home.

Darius I've never done anything to hurt anybody. This motherfucker put this shit on me. You evil son of a bitch. How can you hate innocent people? Tell me!

Dybok *Slower* Innocent people? You have no idea how much I despise you. You have the gift of life and what do you do with it? You hide. You hide behind your flesh, *you betray and deceive* you give deceit and betrayal to your *those you say are* brothers and sisters. Your spirituality is cloaked *by* ~~in~~ your fear of vulnerability. You are able to

How's family?

...to observe the ... from the ... of the ...

... it'll be all right.

Who are you? Are you David?

So you have heard of me?

Yes I know who you are.

Come on David, let me get you home.

... to the ... of the ...

... the ... of the ...

Yes it's to me, WHY?

... and ... with ... to ... and ... to ...

It's all right baby, it's all right.

Come on David, let me get you home.

Yes, David, let's go home.

I've never done anything to hurt anybody. This is the only way I can ...

of a bitch. How can you hate innocent people? Tell me!

Innocent people? You have no idea how much I love you. You have the ... and ...

You better not do it.

do you do with it? You ... You ... and ... to you

... you ... You are ...

~~to feel!~~
touch each other with humanly affection, but you choose to inflict pain.

Liar You tell lies to one another, fatal lies – it's not true, nothing you say is true.

Malice You kill each other by the millions without remorse. You're filled with malice.

Ahriman Knowledge is king in your world, wisdom is like water quenching a dry desert thirst. But you choose to keep each other in mental bondage.

Azreal The unchanging hand of God will always keep us nourished with wisdom.

Dybok So you say.

Azreal To love is to be loved.

Darius Right Azreal, you're right.

Dybok To hate is to be hated.

Darius I don't hate anybody.

David Shoo, shoo.

Azreal Why waste life hating?

Dybok YOU TELL ME AZREAL!!! YOU TELL ME! They are no better than us, they'll kill each

other ^{Just} as sure as I am a lying, malice-filled, cunning and insidious heinous nightmare to them.

You're no better than us. You're murderers. If you don't have the money "YOU WON'T

LIVE!! Now you tell me Azreal, is that love for thy fellow humankind. There is nothing

honorable about straddling the lines of good and bad, right and wrong, love and hate. You take one or the other.

Azreal Darius you must have faith that God will give you no more than you can handle. NO MORE.

Azreal Pray for an abundance of faith Darius, Pray

Darius I will, I must have faith.

*AZREAL MOVES towards Darius
DYBOK MOVES towards AZREAL
(Dybok grabs Azreal by the hand to take him away but, Darius grabs his other arm.)*

Azreal Believe, Darius. There is a reason for your being.

Dybok Azreal, you are worlds apart from them, you will stay with me—for an eternity.

Darius Don't leave me Azreal.

Azreal Just remember there is a glorious place waiting for you Darius. If you love life, you'll keep it, if you hate life, you will lose it.

Dybok Clan, give me a hand. Get him, pull him back from that canker sore of a human.

Darius No, don't leave me alone, I'm not ready,

Azreal You're giving life away, Darius. Walk by faith. The paradigm shift is ending, my destiny is not for me to know. But I'm going to take every step with the joy of knowing that my life belongs to a power that is omnipotent and merciful.

Dybok What are you speaking of Azreal? Diiiiieee.

(Dybok wraps a cord around Azreal's neck and begins to strangle him, while the other clan members hold him. Azreal tries to break away from the clan but he is no match for them. As he slowly begins to die, he whispers his final words.)

Azreal Darius, some must die, so that others may live. Live Darius, learn to live.

(Azreal dies. Lights on the clan slowly black out while the clan pick up Azreal's body and take it back to their cave. The lights are on Darius, Tina, David, and Marcus. Darius looks at them as if he is coming out of a nightmare.)

Darius I hate this disease.

Darius Faith, I must have faith

Marcus You gotta have faith Darius.

David I love you, we love you

Tina You'll find peace somewhere in all of this Darius.

Dybok Well I hope you have an abundance of faith. You will need it to survive this paradigm shift.
Azreal.

Azreal My life is in God's hand Dybok, not yours.

Dybok Yes and I got the stairway to heaven to sell you if you believe that one. If God so cared about these people, then why doesn't he intervene. Why doesn't he show himself to the ALMIGHTY DYBOK?

Azreal You know as well as I Dybok, God is not in the business of proving mute points to a wicked monarch of hell. There are miracles among them everyday. To breathe the air, a force unseen, yet so precious to life.

Darius Yes, yes, God has been good to me, maybe he wants me to

Azreal Never Question your God's intent. Just pray that he gives you the courage, the strength, and wisdom to accept, believe, and endure his life-perfecting experiences.

Dybok Azreal, that is enough out of you.

Darius I'm dirty, I am a walking disease.

Azreal That's what we want Darius. We want you to give up on life.

Dybok AZREAL, STOP NOW!!!!

David

We hate it too, B.

(They all turn to leave the club. As they leave, the lights go to black. The lights come up on the cave where Dybok and the Clan have Azreal's body, making fun of it.)

Dybok

Remember, I am waiting for anyone of you to make the mistake of being irresponsible. We're waiting.

ALL

Die, Die, Die, Die.

The End

David

We have a too, B.

(They all turn to leave the club. As they leave, the lights go to black. The lights come up on the
stage where David and the Chin have found a body, looking for it.)

David

Remember, I am waiting for anyone of you to make the mistake of being responsible. We're

waiting.

All

Don't see Don't see

The End

Curtain Call

Group
#1

B. P. Prospero / Boy in the Club #2
Baby

Polidamam / Boy in the Club #1
Tina / Loneliness

Group
#2

Ahirmen
Malice
Liar
Denial
~~Prose~~

Group
#3

Harim
David
Marcus
Azyreal
Lizbok

Group
#4

Zake
Tony
Calvin

Curran's Call

Police / Boy in the Club #12

Police / Boy in the Club #1

Aug 21 #1

Police / Boy in the Club #12

Aug 21 #1

Police / Boy in the Club #12

Aug 21 #1

Police / Boy in the Club #12

Aug 21 #1

Questions for Calvin

1. Programs? ✓
2. Move the bar from my house? ✓
3. Head Shots?
4. Music? Can we kill one song?
5. Lighting?
6. Dance?
7. Mailing List? Do you think you need one
8. Decorations for Lobby?
9. Someone to work the door?

Questions for Column
✓

1. Programs?
2. Where the far from my house?
3. What shot?
4. Where? Can we kill one now?
5. Lighting?
6. Chance?
7. Meeting List? Do you think you need one?
8. Recommendations for lighting?
9. Someone to work the door?

2AKE

- 1 Cover the Ladders.
- 2 Round up all props
- 3

Tony - give to Zake

1 Books (2)

2 Alive / empty liquor bottles
for bar

3 Plastic cups for bar

4 Names to go under picture if we
get the pictures done.
↑ ↑ ↑
of every one

5 a lion & a board

Proof - give to John

1 Books (2)

2 Blank/empty paper bottles

3 Plastic cups for bar

4 Plates to go under picture
up to picture bar.

5 of empty bar

2 A beam of a board